

light on our own Government's knowledge about POW's and MIA's when the Vietnam war ended in 1973.

As a result of my direct involvement with this issue, I can report that, even though we have made some progress over the years, there is still much work to do. It is, therefore, my hope that this administration will take the opportunity National POW/MIA Recognition Day provides to rededicate itself to using all appropriate resources available to the U.S. Government to resolve the POW/MIA issue.

I personally believe that public awareness is critical to ensuring that the United States vigorously presses Communist governments abroad, especially North Korea, China, Vietnam, and Laos, to give us the complete answers that we deserve on this humanitarian issue. Indeed, the support of the public has enabled us to continue to push forward with legislative initiatives in Congress that can help to ensure the POW/MIA issue is pursued as a top priority with the governments I just referenced.

I want to assure my own constituents and the many concerned Americans who have contacted me through the years that I remain absolutely committed to doing everything I think is appropriate to resolve the fate of our missing soldiers.

Mr. President, I thank the American people for remembering our unaccounted for POW's and MIA's on this special day.●

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the Senate will immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations under the Executive Calendar, Nos. 249, 250, and 251; by unanimous consent, the nominations are deemed confirmed and the motions to reconsider laid upon the table, and any statements relating to

the nominations will appear at this point in the RECORD, the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate will return to legislative session.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

#### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Kenneth S. Apfel, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2001.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Nancy Killefer, of Florida, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1997

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, when the Senate completes its business today, it will stand in adjournment until the hour of 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 23, and on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour will be granted and the Senate will immediately resume consideration of S. 830, the Food and Drug Administration reform bill, with 2 minutes of debate, equally divided in the usual form, on the Durbin amendment No. 1141.

At that point, there will be a series of stacked rollcall votes on Senator DURBIN's amendments Nos. 1339 and 1341. Members can anticipate additional rollcall votes on Tuesday in connection with the Food and Drug Administration legislation.

Following adoption of the committee substitute to that bill, the Senate will proceed to an immediate cloture vote on the Food and Drug Administration bill.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1997, AT 9:30 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment.

Thereupon, at 2:37 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, September 23, 1997, at 9:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 19, 1997:

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

M. JOHN BERRY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE BONNIE R. COHEN.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TERRENCE J. BROWN, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE LARRY E. BYRNE, RESIGNED.

#### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE U.S. NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 624:

#### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MARION J. BALSAM, 0000.  
CAPT. BARRY C. BLACK, 0000.  
CAPT. RICHARD T. GINMAN, 0000.  
CAPT. MICHAEL R. JOHNSON, 0000.  
CAPT. CHARLES R. KUBIC, 0000.  
CAPT. RODRIGO C. MELENDEZ, 0000.  
CAPT. DANIEL H. STONE, 0000.

#### THE JUDICIARY

MARY ANN COHEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE U.S. TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF 15 YEARS AFTER SHE TAKES OFFICE, (REAPPOINTMENT)

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SETH WAXMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE SOLICITOR GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, VICE DREW S. DAYS III, RESIGNED.

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 19, 1997:

#### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

KENNETH S. APFEL, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2001.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

GARY GENSLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

NANCY KILLEFER, OF FLORIDA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.